



GP2858

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Ahrens, Jr. et al.**

Serial No.: **09/971,144**

Filed: **October 4, 2001**

For: **Data Processing System, Method,  
and Product for Automatically  
Tracking Insertions of Integrated  
Circuit Devices**

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Group Art Unit: **2858**

Examiner: **Unknown**

Attorney Docket No.: **AUS920010758US1**

**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)**

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By:

Krista Douthitt

**TRANSMITTAL DOCUMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

ENCLOSED HERewith:

- Preliminary amendment; and
- Our return postcard.

No fees are believed to be necessary. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

*Krista Douthitt*  
Krista Douthitt

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

4 / 4 Rel. Amdt. A  
E. Willis  
5-23-02

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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Prior to continued examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

✓  
Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 25, and insert the following: ✓

**A1**                      **Figures 5A-5B** depict a high level flow chart which illustrates tracking the number of insertions of integrated circuit devices in accordance with the present invention; and